

Reading Male Voice Choir

Minutes of a committee meeting held on 8 March 2018

Present: Members: Steve Richardson (SR), chairman; John Painter (JP), secretary; Section Leaders (SL's): Dave Allen (DA), Allan Crisp (AC), David Ewens (DE). Officers: Clive Waterman (CW), musical director; Andrew Evans (AE), assistant secretary/publicity officer. Minutes: Peter Blake.

Apologies: Geoff Gale (GG), John Kay (JK), Alan Broodbank (AB).

	Action by
<p>01/18 Minutes of the meeting held on 23 November 2017 were agreed to be a correct record and signed by the chairman.</p>	
<p>02/18 Matters arising from the minutes:</p> <p>a) CD Sales Support: AE is still waiting for a suitable photo for the new display panel.</p> <p>b) New RMVC CD: Delayed but in hand.</p> <p>c) Sponsorship: AE has approached a number of potential sponsors for possible new choir polo shirts, and has also obtained production quotes.</p> <p>d) Feedback from SL's to CW: It was agreed that in future the number of singers to appear at each concert should be provided by SL's to NS rather than to CW.</p> <p>e) Subscriptions for Absentee Members: Deferred to next committee meeting.</p>	<p>AE CW AE SL's/NS JK</p>
<p>03/18 Secretary's Report:</p> <p>The secretary's report had been circulated in advance of the meeting. JP pointed out that we were half way through the year and were doing quite well. He reported that the Minster concert raised over £1,600 as did the Hampstead Norreys concert which included a generous donation of £500. JP then outlined the upcoming programme which includes a new venue, St Paul's Ashford Hill; he also confirmed that the concert at St James will now take place on 30 June 2018. Looking ahead to the 2018/19 concert year, bookings have been made through to December 2018 and five bookings have already been made for 2019. Looking still further ahead JP advised that we had been approached for possible joint concerts by the Abertillery Orpheus Choir and the Arnheims Clarinet Choir from Holland in 2019/20, and that the Harfa choir from Warsaw are anticipating that we will tour there in 2019.</p>	
<p>04/18 Treasurer's Report:</p> <p>The treasurer's report had been circulated in advance of the meeting. JK was not able to be present. No queries of note were raised in his absence.</p>	
<p>05/18 Musical Director's Report:</p> <p>CW began his report by advising members of the sad news that Gavin Roynan had died and that the choir had been asked to sing at his funeral on 22 March 2018. CW to ask re members' availability.</p> <p>CW then passed around a list from which songs will be chosen for the Italy trip. In addition JP suggested we might consider singing 'Speed Your Journey' in Italian which CW thought would be a generous gesture. He went on to say that he thought the men were singing very well at the moment.</p>	<p>CW CW</p>
<p>06/18 Chairman's Report:</p> <p>SR reported that he had visited Gwyn Arch with Alex Turner. He went on to say that</p>	

having spent some time talking with Alex about his time with the choir he was able to confirm Alex was extremely happy with what he is currently doing with the choir and that he is enjoying very much working with CW; he is also enjoying the wide variety of music we sing.

Following a discussion at the last committee meeting SR had prepared a procedure to cover informal music events involving choir members. Agreed by the committee he will now arrange for this to be included in the members' handbook. SR had also prepared a draft agreement to cover the borrowing of choir equipment, which will include instructions on its use, care and insurance. Following further discussion a final draft will be emailed to committee members for approval. To ensure our own insurance policy covers the lending of our equipment to others, JK is asked to pass a copy of our new borrowing agreement to our insurers. JK also to check that our current insurance policy covers Rowland which is being stored at CW's house.

SR

All/SR

JK

JK

07/18: Health and Safety Update:

The needs of the less physically able members of the choir and the associated buddy system which is in place were discussed. No further action was proposed.

08/18 Social Programme:

DE reported that the visit to the Royal Mint had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers. He has now booked 53 tickets for 42nd Street at the Drury Lane Theatre of which 13 have been taken already. No further events are planned at the moment.

09/18 Dervio Trip:

AE reported that since our last meeting he and JP had visited Dervio. He reported that the hotel in which we will be staying is in a beautiful setting overlooking the Lake Como, and that it has a bar and restaurant. We will be singing in two formal events in two beautiful churches, and three informal events - two miked-up out of doors and a further event indoors.

DE then initiated a discussion on the wearing of the choir's woollen uniform jacket in Italy as AE had noted the temperature is likely to be around 30C whilst we are on tour. After considering a number of options it was agreed that the most suitable item to be worn would be a short sleeved white cotton shirt, embroidered with the choir logo. It was further agreed that this short sleeved shirt should be adopted as a part of choir uniform. AE will obtain a quote for 80 shirts - two each for those going to Italy. Ideally he will find a sponsor but failing that it was agreed the choir would pay.

JP further suggested, and it was agreed, that for social events whilst in Italy we should wear casual clothing and not, as in France, full uniform.

RJ

AE

10/18 Lighting of the Choir:

There was a brief discussion but as this item had been proposed by Nigel Shaw who was not able to be present, it was agreed to carry it forward to the next committee meeting.

11/18 Any Other Business:

a) **Choir Concerns:** SR noted that since a meeting to discuss these matters was held there appeared to have been no significant outstanding issues raised by members.

b) **Succession:** DA raised the matter of the stepping down of both the choir secretary and chairman at the end of this season and asked if any members had come forward to take their place. SR advised that one person had suggested they might want to stand as chairman, but that he would in any case be regularly asking at rehearsal for

members interested in putting their name forward for these positions to let him or JP know.

c) **Data Protection Regulations:** JP has now been on several courses on this important area of legislation. He pointed out that we are fortunate in that as a choir we recently introduced a privacy and data protection procedure. To now comply fully with current regulations we will therefore only have to make a few small additions.

SR

JP

**There being no further business the meeting was closed
The next meeting of the committee will be held at 1930 on
Thursday 7 June 2018
At Hawkedon School**